



# 7 more tenants commit to mall in Casa Grande

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Developers behind the Promenade at Casa Grande announced seven more retailers and restaurants will join the outdoor shopping center under construction at Arizona 287 and Interstate 10.

Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Claire's, Cost Plus World Market, Mimi's Cafe, Olive Garden and Sports Authority will join the 1 million square-foot mall.

Most of the center's major stores, including anchors Dillards, JCPenney, Kohl's and Target, are expected to open in October. A grand opening celebration for the first phase of the project is slated for Nov. 16.

Stores in the second phase of the project will open in the spring.

"This will definitely be a regional destination," said Todd Chester, principal with WDP Partners. WDP teamed with Phoenix-based mall developer Westcor and the Pederson Group to develop the Promenade at Casa Grande.

"This community is quickly emerging as a hot spot between the urban growth of Phoenix and Tucson," said Gary Pederson, vice president of the Pederson Group.

Pederson was born and raised in Casa Grande. His father was the municipality's first city manager.

The Carlton family owned the farmland where the mall is being built.

"To watch this rise out of the cotton fields is exciting," Pederson said.

Residents of Eloy, Maricopa, Sacaton, Florence, Coolidge and Arizona City are expected to make frequent use of the new mall.

The Promenade at Casa Grande will also have a Harkins Theatres, the first multiplex in the city.

Jay David owns a home in Casa Grande and said he usually makes a 40-minute drive to the Chandler Fashion Center.

David acknowledges he looks forward to saving gas and time, and is happy to see something that will keep him entertained.

"I'm glad we're going to get a movie theater finally," he said.